

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Thomas C. RUSSELL, et al.  
Application No.: 10/601,689  
Filed: June 23, 2003  
Title: Method and Apparatus for Providing a Selectively Isolated Equipment Area Network for Machine Elements with Data Communication Therebetween and with Remote Sites  
TC/A.U.: 2446  
Examiner: Benjamin R. BRUCKART  
Docket No.: ED0100  
Customer No.: 40582

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed November 18, 2008, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on February 18, 2009, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the following amendments and/or remarks:

**Amendments to the Specification** are not included in this paper.

**Amendment to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.